

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## MARIAN KOENIG

Highland Hills Elementary  
Educator of the Year

**When and why did you move to Hermiston?**

*I moved from Portland in 1999 to be closer to family.*

**What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?**

*My favorite place to eat in Hermiston is a tie between USA Subs and Ixtapa.*

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

*In my spare time, I like to read, hang out and play board games with my family as well as play frisbee golf at the dam every now and then.*

**What surprises you about Hermiston?**

*The thing that surprises me the most about Hermiston is our sense of community and how quickly our town is growing.*

**What was the last book you read?**

*The last book that I read was "A Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde.*

**What website or app do you use most other than Facebook?**

*I do not use any form of social media, but use Amazon, eBay and YouTube.*

**If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?**

*If I could travel anywhere, it would probably be a long trip all over the U.S. I would like to go sight-seeing, visit museums and quirky attractions along the way.*

**What is the funniest thing that's ever happened to you?**

*One of the funniest things to happen to me while at work was, a kindergartener came up to me and told me, with a serious expression and tone in his voice that he was not Mexican. He was only part Mexican and he proceeded to point to one of his arms and one of his legs. According to this student the only part of him that was Mexican was the one arm and one leg on opposite sides of his body.*

**What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?**

*My goal for the next 12 months is to get out and enjoy the nice weather, finish this school year strong and start planning for my next year's kindergarteners.*

**What is your proudest accomplishment?**

*My proudest accomplishment is receiving my Master's Degree in Education, so that I can educate and work with children as a career. I love my job, and the students and families that I get to work with on a daily basis. Without the aforementioned accomplishment I would not have been able to receive the honor of being voted teacher of the year!*

# Hermiston Herald



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## HERMISTON HISTORY



HH file photo

Hermiston High School FFA members hold a banner celebrating the upcoming state convention in 1995.

## Hermiston paratrooper killed in WWII

25 YEARS AGO

March 14, 1995

In a surprisingly short trial yesterday, John Ralph Crespin Jr. pled guilty to first-degree manslaughter for the June 6, 1994 shooting of Jose Perez.

Crespin faces up to five years in prison for the slaying.

Umatilla County district attorney Dave Gallaher said he accepted defense attorney Ken Morrow's assertion that Crespin was under extreme emotional disturbance when he killed Perez, because it was a "sure thing" that he would do time.

The disturbance element amounts to the difference between manslaughter and murder.

While there was no prior plea negotiations between himself and Morrow, Gallaher said impromptu conversations over what would be acceptable to both parties came up while a jury was being selected. In short order, Crespin entered a guilty plea, Circuit Court Judge Robert Abrams scheduled a sentencing hearing for May 9, and the jury went home.

50 YEARS AGO

March 12, 1970

The city of Hermiston irrigation district is back where it started, before a public hearing on the continuation of the project, following Monday evening's city council session.

Mayor Walter Pearson told the council a motion they adopted at a public hearing held Wednesday, March 4, was not valid because it was not a stated meeting of the council.

Prior to the mayor's statement, Councilman Stephen Trukositz said, "I was shocked and appalled by the meeting held last Wednesday. Anger precipitates anger and we acted hastily."

The council did not reaffirm the resolution they made at last Wednesday's meeting. The resolution stated the city district would continue with remaining property owners paying the cost, estimated at 70 cents per front foot.

The city's district is comprised of about 80 acres within the city and an issue arose when 67 percent of the property owners withdrew from the district. As a result the remaining property owners were confronted with a rate increase from the current 40 cents per foot.

75 YEARS AGO

March 15, 1945

Another Hermiston youth has been reported killed in World War II. This week Mr. and Mrs. Earl L. Russell received word from the war department that their son, Pfc. George C. Russell, a member of a paratroop division, had been killed in action Feb. 13 on Luzon island in the Philippines.

Pfc. Russell was home on furlough several months ago and had only recently gone back into active duty.



HH file photo

Al Price of Action Steel Erectors works on the future Sandstone Middle School in 1995.



HH file photo

Hermiston's new DMV building hosts an open house in 1970.

2) Mrs. Margaret Fraser this week received a telegram from the War Department stating that her son, Lt. Thomas Fraser, has been missing over Germany as of Feb. 21. No further word has been received to date and relatives and friends alike are anxiously awaiting additional news.

Lt. Fraser, who had written his mother practically every day since going overseas, completed his flight training last spring in California, being sent overseas last summer. The last letter received by Mrs. Fraser was dated Feb. 18, stating that he was extremely busy but in fine spirits otherwise.

100 YEARS AGO

March 13, 1920

Last week the Oregon Hardware & Implement Co. completed the installation of one of the best equipped lighting and pneumatic water systems hereabout on the George Strohm ranch southeast of

this city.

The lighting plant is a Fairbanks-Morse 40-light storage system, and is installed in a freeze-proof outside cellar. The water system is connected with the storage system and by modern new plumbing and a system of pipes to the barn and hog sheds Mr. Strohm now has an abundance of hot and cold water throughout the house and also for the stock.

The lighting system is also connected with the barns and hog houses, and taken altogether he has about all the conveniences of a city home.

2) The rabbit shoot held last Sunday north of Hermiston was a big success in the number of the animals killed. Between 40 and 50 took part in the shoot, and it is estimated that nearly 2,000 rabbits were made away with. The local men were assisted by Umatilla residents. About a mile of rabbit-tight fence has been put up in this district.

## BTW

Continued from Page A1

Plan, which helps guide the city's efforts to increase and improve parks and recreation offerings.

City staff have gathered ideas for the plan through online surveys, stakeholder interviews and "pop-up events" around town. Staff plan to finish the update in April, and next week's open house will provide an opportunity for feedback on key recommendations in the draft plan before it is finalized and presented to the city council for adoption.

Information at the event will be offered in English and Spanish.

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People are invited to

help **Leona Harpster** celebrate her 95th birthday **Saturday, March 21** from 1-5 p.m. at the **Harker-rider Senior Activity Center**, 255 N.E. Second St., Hermiston.

There is no admission charge. The event features a free potato bar and live music by **Rusty Roe & Friends**.

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People are urged to "save the date" for the third annual **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)** fundraiser.

With a theme of "Out of Africa," the event is **Saturday, April 25** from 6-9:30 p.m. at the **Hermiston National Guard Armory**, 900 S.E. Columbia Drive. The evening includes dinner, an auction and live entertainment fea-

turing dueling pianos. Tickets are \$40 each.

Under the umbrella of **Umatilla-Morrow Head Start**, the **CASA** program trains people to serve as advocates for foster children in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

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In addition to raising money, people can learn more about the **CASA** program. For questions or to purchase tickets, call 541-564-6878 or visit [www.umchs.org](http://www.umchs.org).

**Wildhorse Resort & Casino** is blasting off with a concert by **Starship** featuring **Mickey Thomas**. The group is known for such hits as "We Built This City," "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now" and "Sara." The show is **Saturday, March 21** at 8 p.m.

in the **Rivers Event Center**, located off Interstate 84, Exit 216. Tickets range from \$44 to \$59. For more information or tickets, visit [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com).

The menu for the **Harker-rider Senior Activity Center** for Thursday is tuna rice casserole, peas and dessert. Friday is Spanish rice soup, salad and dessert. Monday is biscuits with hamburger gravy, green beans, fruit and dessert. Tuesday (St. Patrick's Day) is corned beef and cabbage, carrots, red potatoes and cake. Next Wednesday is chili, cornbread, fruit and dessert.

— You can submit items for our weekly *By The Way* column by emailing your tips to [editor@hermistonherald.com](mailto:editor@hermistonherald.com).

## CORRECTIONS

It is the policy of the Hermiston Herald to correct errors as soon as they are discovered. Incorrect information will be corrected on Page 2A. Errors committed on the Opinion page will be corrected on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.

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